Docket No.: 21776-00057-US

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Conf. No: 2805

Kohei Tatsumi, et al

Application No.: 09/851,324

Group Art Unit: 2823

Filed: May 9, 2001

Examiner: N. Berezny

For:

SPHERICAL SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND METHOD FOR FABRICATING THE

SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

February 25, 2003

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

These references were all cited during prosecution of parent application 09/350,125, now issued as US Patent 6,509,645, a copy of the face of which is enclosed. Also enclosed is an initialed copy of Form 1449, showing consideration of an Applicant-submitted reference in the parent application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date, OR more than three months after the date of entry of the national stage of a PCT application, AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs first, but before the mailing date f a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on form PTO/SB/08 is:

Application No.: 09/851,324

Docket No.: 21776-00057-US

[X] not given

- [] given for each listed item
- [] given for only non-English language listed items
- [] in the form of an English language copy of a Search Report from a foreign patent office, issued in a counterpart application, which refers to the relevant portions of the references

While the information and references disclosed in this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

No fee is believed to be due with this IDS, as the list of references are provided only as a convenience to the Examiner, and to ensure printing on the face of any patent to issue from this application. The references are not required to be submitted, because of the presumption of consideration by the Examiner of all references cited in a parent application.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures:

PTO/SB/08A

Initialed 1449 in parent

First page US Patent 6,509,645